

Message Text

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ORIGIN SSM-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-11 ISO-00

SS-15 NSC-05 H-02 SAB-01 AID-05 SSO-00 NSCE-00 IGA-02

L-03 INR-07 INRE-00 ACDA-05 DODE-00 CIAE-00 /103 R

DRAFTED BY SSM:PBROWNBAC/CWKONTOS:LMB

APPROVED BY SSM:CWKONTOS

SSM - CEMCMANAWAY

P - FWISNER

IO - DTOUSSAINT (DRAFT)

NSC - AHOUGHTON (DRAFT)

NEA - ADAY (DRAFT)

H - EKRIZEK (SUBSTANCE)

S/S - FVORTIZ

----- 079248

O 012236Z MAR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION SINAI IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 049739

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EG, IS, UN

SUBJECT: VISITS BY CODELS AND DISTINGUISHED VISITORS TO
THE BUFFER ZONE

REF: SINAI 100

1. WE EXPECT A NUMBER OF CODELS AND VIPS TO REQUEST PER-
MISSION TO VISIT SFM. WE FULLY UNDERSTAND THAT ULTIMATE
RESPONSIBILITY FOR ENTRY TO BUFFER ZONE IS UN'S AND WELCOME
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OPPORTUNITY TO WORK OUT PROCEDURES WITH UNEF SATISFACTORY

TO BOTH OF US. OUR PRINCIPAL CONCERN IS OF COURSE THAT SINCE SFM IS A USG INSTALLATION, WE WOULD BE PLACED IN A DIFFICULT POSITION IF WE HAD TO AGREE TO LIMIT ACCESS TO IT BY CONGRESSIONAL VISITORS. WHILE WE CAN MORE EASILY RESTRAIN OTHER VIPS, IF NECESSARY, ANY POLICY EITHER BY SSM OR UN WHICH COULD BE INTERPRETED BY MEMBERS OF CONGRESS AS A LIMITATION OF THEIR RIGHT TO VISIT A US INSTALLATION COULD SIGNIFICANTLY CONTRIBUTE TO EROSION OF SUPPORT TO US PRESENCE IN SINAI, AND WEAKEN US SUPPORT FOR UN PEACE-KEEPING AND UN GENERALLY.

2. US HOPES THAT PROCEDURES OUTLINED BELOW WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO SIILASVUO AND THAT HE WOULD RECOMMEND THAT SYG APPROVE THEM, THEREBY ELIMINATING SIILASVUO'S NEED TO GO TO SYG ON INDIVIDUAL VISITS. IF SIILASVUO DEEMS IT NECESSARY TO CLEAR EACH VISIT WITH THE SECRETARY GENERAL, THAT IS HIS DECISION TO MAKE. IN OUR VIEW, IT UNNECESSARILY ESCALATES ATTENTION TO VISITS AND WOULD COMPLICATE AND DELAY WHAT SHOULD BE RELATIVELY SIMPLE PROCEDURE FOR HANDLING VISITS BY UNEF AND SFM.

3. BEST PROCEDURE WOULD SEEM TO BE NOTIFICATION BY DEPARTMENT TO SFM OF EXPECTED VISITS WITH AS MUCH LEAD TIME AS POSSIBLE. SFM WOULD THEN INFORM UNEF AT LEAST 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF EXPECTED VISIT AND IF NO DIFFICULTIES RAISED BY UNEF, SFM WOULD INFORM DEPARTMENT THAT VISIT COULD TAKE PLACE. IF UNEF RAISES PROBLEMS DEPARTMENT WOULD HOPE THEY COULD BE RESOLVED THOUGH IN THE END WE ARE MINDFUL THAT UNEF CONTROLS ACCESS TO BUFFER ZONE. IF UNEF RECEIVES REQUEST FOR VISIT TO SFM BY NON-AMERICAN, UNEF WOULD HAVE TO SEEK APPROVAL FROM SFM.

4. DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES SIILASVUO'S CONCERN OVER POSSIBILITY OF VISITORS REQUESTING TO PASS FROM ONE SIDE OF BUFFER ZONE TO OTHER AND AGREES WITH HIS APPROACH RE AUTHORIZATION FOR SUCH PASSAGE. DEPARTMENT WILL MAKE CLEAR TO ALL VISITORS THE REQUIREMENT THAT THEY EXIT THE BUFFER ZONE BY WAY OF THE COUNTRY FROM WHICH THEY ENTERED.

5. DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE SFM'S, SIILASVUO'S AND
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USUN'S COMMENTS ON SUGGESTED PROCEDURE BEFORE FINAL AGREEMENT ON HANDLING CODEL AND VIP VISITS IS MADE. WE RECOGNIZE SENSITIVITY OF EGYPTIANS AND NEED FOR LOW PROFILE IN SINAI. WITH THE COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE OF CAIRO, TEL AVIV, AND OTHERS CONCERNED, WE WILL BE FULLY CO-OPERATIVE IN WORKING OUT PROCEDURES AS ACCEPTABLE AS POSSIBLE TO ALL SIDES. KONTOS IS PREPARED TO DISCUSS MATTER WITH SIILASVUO DURING HIS FORTHCOMING VISIT. INGERSOLL

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